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AT THE PENITENTIARY.

Life in the Prison on the Hill.

HOW THE TIME IS PASSED.

SOME OF THE FEATURES OF THE INSTITUTION.

The Number of Inmates—Enoch Davis, Who Is Under Sentence of Death—Other Noted Convicts—The Able Management of Acting Warden Stark.

Situated southeast of the city a distance of a half hour's ride by electric car line, is the largest "hotel" in the territory. It has accommodations for 500 guests. The sanitary arrangements are of the best and the view of the surrounding landscape from that point is superb. It has an advantage no other hostelry possesses. It is a training school as well as a hotel. Opinion is divided as to whether such a school gives more instruction regarding the results of wrongdoing, and more training in habits of industry and deeper knowledge of vice in all its forms. I was about to call it a university of crime. It might be nearer the truth to call it a hospital where criminal cases are treated, cases that oftentimes baffle the utmost skill. A few of the patients go forth with renewed strength, courage and higher purpose, and their after lives seem wholesome, utterly devoid of the taint they had once known. Some end their days within its walls, but by far the greater number leave as they entered, save, perhaps, with more caution acquired through their experience of the power of the strong hand of the law.

Whatever doubts there may be as to the benefits to the prisoner of a period of detention in a penitentiary, certain it is that that detention is a boon to the public, likewise that much depends upon the management of such an institution, as far as the salutary effects of the detention are concerned.

THE UTAH PENITENTIARY is located on a government reservation of 180 acres, three miles from Salt Lake City. Thick walls of red sand stone surround the penitentiary building, and grounds proper, and with the warden's residence, a three-story structure of the same material, guarding the west entrance and the towers at each corner of the wall, give it much the appearance of a military fort. A guard house near the west wall, the visitor presents a pass from the United States marshal and is ushered into the warden's office, a room as cheerful as most down-town offices, and with occupants no more formidable. Felix Stark, the warden, is a young man of resolute will, and the firmness of purpose and quiet persistence that are his characteristics are invaluable aids in securing the admirable discipline that has introduced. The other occupants of the office is W. T. O'Brien, the book-keeper, who position is no sinecure.

In company with the warden or a guard delegated to that duty, the visitor looks over the warden's menage, which is as well appointed as are most homes. He then passes out and makes the circuit of the walls, nineteen feet in height, that guard the enclosure, and looks about him curiously as he stops a moment in the little tower rooms occupied by the guards when the weather is inclement or when they take a moment's rest—and smoke—from their twelve hours of sentinel duty.

"Suppose," said an inquisitive woman to one of the guards, "suppose I were

range and other appliances of proportional size is included in the rounds. The four convict cooks keep it a model of neatness. The same is true of the large dining room, whose rough floors and tables are spotless.

THE PRISONERS. There are 185 prisoners at present. The harvest of criminals has been very light of late. Last month the average per diem was 292. During the common-law disturbance the number swelled to 237. The highest number of inmates at any one time was 233. The longest term of service imposed is the life sentence or 99 years as it is "named in the bond." The shortest term ever served here or elsewhere perhaps, was for one hour. The case was that of Mrs. Alice McKenzie. She

and her husband Maaz McKenzie, were convicted of grand larceny. The husband was sentenced to one year's imprisonment, but the court discriminated in the woman's favor, as all gallant courts do.

LIFE OF A CONVICT. The life of a convict after he enters this penal institution is full of pathetic interest. No matter what his crime, no matter what his character, deadly cancer on the body politic though he may be, when the great iron doors swing behind him he is an object of pity.

He enters the warden's office, it may be, with an air of bravado, but it is more probable with trembling limbs and an aching face, and is ushered without much ceremony into the presence of the barber, who soon divests him of any semblance to a beard. If his offense is one that entitles him to be called a dangerous criminal he is stripped and note taken of any and all physical peculiarities, even to the number of moles on his body. Record is made of this pen picture and is kept among the archives of the institution.

He is then put through the process of "gouging," which the uninitiated call "sitting for a picture." He is afterwards shown to his apartment in the hotel, and however cheerless he may consider the walls of steel and the hard, narrow bed, he has no grounds for complaint that he is not as well served as the other guests. He probably has some thought of this being almost as narrow, well curt and as cold as the last tenement to which he will be assigned. He may wish it were his fate to occupy that tenement rather than this, but he has not much time for reflection, for he is hurried into the striped garments, if he has not already donned them, that will constitute his uniform. He is oppressed by his narrow quarters and by the crushing sense of all this imprisonment means. Most probably he leaves his cell at once to wander out into the yard, where his fellow-prisoners are playing ball or walking about and giving partial interest to the game. There is a sense of relief from that terrible oppression in coming in touch with humanity, no matter of what order, and there is a momentary satisfaction in receiving the rough blows that serve as greetings from the criminals who gather about him. When the bell sounds and

the prisoners return to their cells he goes reluctantly, and makes one of a gang of twenty that go to the dining room, using

THE LOCK-STEP that is new and hateful to him. The food served at his first meal in the penitentiary, though abundant and well cooked, is not palatable to him. Perhaps he has never eaten from tin dishes before. He may have memories of pleasant faces that the hard desperate ones that surround him. At any rate he feels a sickening sense of helplessness, and he sleeps but little that night. Does remorse cause his wakeful hours? His custodians would pre- judge him from their knowledge of others of his class, and say that in this as in all previous cases, the punishment which has overtaken him is all he regrets.

They say that the hardening, toughening process which had made his crime possible had made remorse impossible. However that may be he soon falls into the routine of the life of a convict. He breakfasts at seven, dines at twelve and sups at half past five. The intervening hours are spent in the yard or in his cell. He may secure such books as he chooses from the library and he may write to his friends and receive letters from them, the correspondence being under the strict surveillance of the warden. If he grows restive under restraint he shows this frame of mind by wandering away from his companions. If the guards see a man avoiding companionship and strolling moodily about alone, he at once becomes an object of suspicion and every effort is made to nip his attempt to escape in the bud. There is usually an outbreak of some sort against authority as the result of such a mood. This is usually succeeded by a disposition to tractability, caused by the discovery that in cases of good conduct there is a commutation of the term, the same running two months for the first year, three months for the second, four months for the third, so continuing till a term of ten years may be commuted to a trifle over six years. This system

becomes a strong incentive to good conduct and is a valuable aid in discipline. The prisoner is fortunate if he is assigned to duties in the kitchen, the laundry, or the gardens where the vegetables for summer use and potatoes for the year are raised, provender which goes far toward filling the storehouse. A task for which there is much competition is caring for the lawn surrounding the warden's residence, a well sodded area with several pretty flower beds. All the domestic duties of the great household are performed by the convicts and if the long hours, days, months, even years of confinement are partially filled with such duties, their tedium and even horror are greatly

relieved.

THE CRIMES. Of the prisoners ten were convicted of forgery, three of arson, six of counterfeiting, sixteen of robbery, twenty-four for murder in various degrees, thirty-three for adultery and kindred crimes, forty-one for grand larceny and fifty-six for burglary and housebreaking.

Of the number three are women, Mrs. Alice Tremaine, and Emma Thomas (white), and Alice Kenzie (colored), all awaiting trial for adultery or fornication.

SOME INTERESTING CASES. There are six life prisoners. Of these Tom Williams is the oldest, his term commencing May 3, '83. Twelve years ago he was shift boss at one of the Tintic mines and in the discharge of his duties he found it necessary to discharge one of the men. The man showed ill feeling toward Williams from that time and there were some fierce quarrels between them. The result was the crime which cost Williams his liberty. He claimed it was committed in self defense, and the prosecution introduced evidence tending to show that his victim was on his knees begging for mercy when the fatal shot was fired. He has proven a most exemplary prisoner, not having violated the lightest rule of the institution for eleven years.

August Nelson was sentenced to life imprisonment for robbing and murdering a peddler in 1892. Parlan McFarlane was convicted of the murder of two men with whom he had quarrelled over a game of billiards and has served four years of his long sentence.

Alma Murdock, a half breed Indian, killed a white man during a quarrel about a white woman of whom they were both

enamored. Murdock was shot but his wound proved a slight one and he is now chewing the bitter-curd of reflection, while his innamorata has long since consorted herself for the double loss by taking unto herself a husband. She takes a melancholy interest in her cholerical lover and makes an occasional visit to the penitentiary. She is described as a buxom woman with no special pretensions to beauty.

Charley Lung, a weak-faced Chinaman commenced serving a life sentence in '87 for the murder of a Chinese woman. The motive was robbery and the pig-tailed rascal performed his murderous task well, using as his instrument a heavy iron candlestick with which he dashed out his victim's brains.

while he lies in his solitary cell, waiting—for what? And thinking—of what?

ANOTHER MURDERER. Charles Davenport, convicted of murder in the second degree, is serving a thirty years' sentence, the longest except those of the life prisoners.

HILL OF OGDEN. Hill, the Ogden embezzler, is a man of high degree of culture and refinement. He seems strangely out of his element among his prison surroundings. The newspaper reading public will remember the sad story of his downfall from an enviable position in the business and social circles of the Junction City. He seemed utterly crushed by the sentence imposed upon him and the indignities that have been proffered him were days of awful despair.

The frequent letters and visits from his brave, faithful wife revived his courage and he began, in time, to seek distraction in studies as mail carrier and attendant in the guard's office. He is studying stenography and rapidly becoming proficient in the use of pot hooks. Christmas was a day of misery for him. When little remembrances came from the family who would spend the day amid more cheerful surroundings, but whose holiday season would be saddened by memories of the hapless convict resting on the grim and pitiful. He avoids as much as possible association with his fellow prisoners, and was glad to assume added duties for the privilege of taking his meals in the kitchen.

THE NEW PENITENTIARY. Improvements costing an aggregate of \$300,000 have been made within the past five years. Chief among them are the new cellhouse and the warden's residence. The facilities for heating and ventilating are of the best. Innovations that have been productive of good results are the introduction of the lock step which requires a uniform gait by the prisoners as they pass to and from their meals, and to their cells, the hands of the convicts resting on the shoulders of the man preceding them; the designation of the prisoners by numbers, their clothing being marked by corresponding numbers, and a system of bells whereby guards and wardens are put in instant communication. These innovations are due to Mr. Stark who assumed the wardenship last October. Since that time not one escape has been made.

THE WARDEN. Mr. Stark's reply to the question, "How do you prevent escapes and outbreaks of rebellion?" was that constant watchfulness is the preventive. Eternal vigilance is necessary for proper discipline. This he tries to observe. "The least trouble is given by prisoners who have served terms in other penitentiaries, the greatest by the hobo or tramp element."

Most of the prisoners have been hard drinkers and they will resort to almost any means to obtain liquor. The storeroom contains the coveted prize, and longing eyes and pining hands often turn in that direction. Anything that contains alcohol is acceptable, even the bay rum and perfumes in the barber shop. One of the cooks appeared before the new warden in a dizzy condition and, when questioned, acknowledged that he had drunk three bottles of lemon essence in celebration of the introduction of the new regime. He was promptly locked up and left to mourn his previous joyfulness. Petty thieving among the prisoners is prevented by a rule that they shall not visit each other's cells without permission from the guard on duty at that time.

THE MATRON. Mrs. Eliza M. Smith, the matron, has charge of the woman's department,

which, though never large, requires supervision by a lady. She has pleasant apartments in the warden's residence. Although her duties are not arduous, her presence is necessary at all hours, especially in order to receive the female prisoners as soon as they are brought to the building. She is a pleasant, sunny-faced lady, whose cheerfulness and kindness serve her in good stead in her present position.

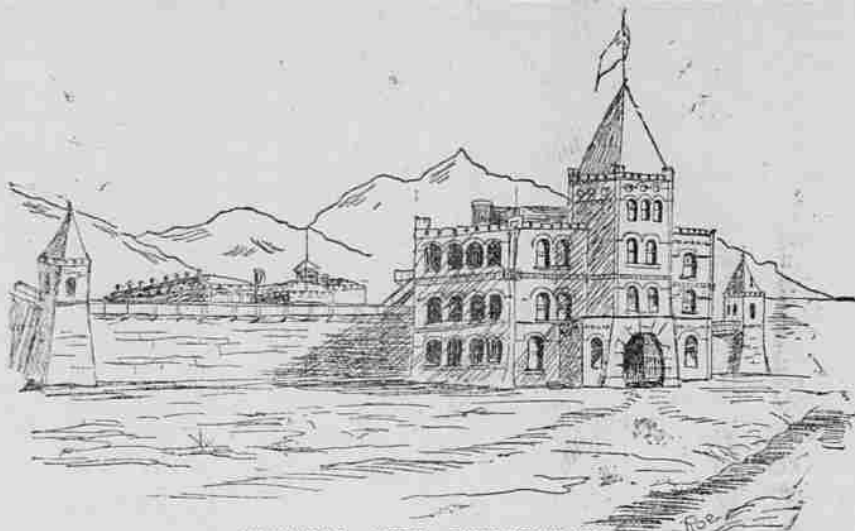
THE PRISON CEMETERY. From the walls can be seen the prison cemetery, a dreary spot. The graves are marked by boards whereon is the name of the dead. Here lie the outcasts of society. Few of the convicts are in communication with their families, and if one of these goes the way of all mortals and his survivors are notified of the fact, there is likely to be no answer, or if there is it gives instruction that his body "lie in the bed he has made for it."

ASSOCIATION OF PRISONERS. A word of criticism, of this and many other penitentiaries. The more or less enforced association of the prisoners is extremely harmful, especially in the case of a youth who would be comparatively innocent being thrown in daily contact with a vice hardened man. The influence upon the tyro in crime is pernicious.

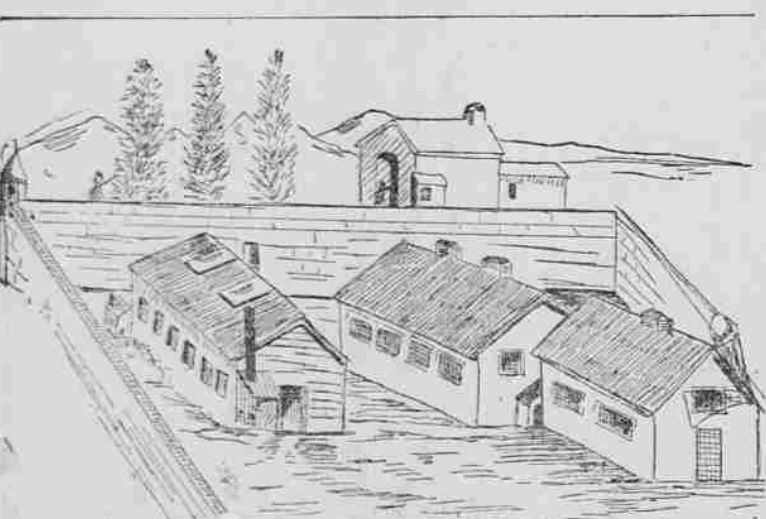
Then, too, labor should be provided for every convict. Aside from economic considerations, it is necessary for the health, mental, moral and physical of the inmates.

When the statehood, which is imminent, comes to bless this territory, the penitentiary which is now owned by the United States government, will become the property of the state, or will be used for the confinement of criminals guilty of crimes against the government, as robbing the mails and counterfeiting.

An effort is being made to have the Smithsonian institution at Washington establish a salt water aquarium at or near Tacoma on Puget sound. The government has been asked to send one of the aquariums exhibited at Chicago.



EXTERIOR, NEW PENITENTIARY.



INTERIOR, OLD PENITENTIARY.

a prisoner and you should see me sneaking across this yard and making an effort to escape, would you shoot me?"

"No," replied the guard. "I would slip down from this wall in less time than it takes to say it and hustle you back to where you belong."

Fifteen guards are employed at the penitentiary, eleven of whom are on duty during the day and four at night. The fact that the prisoners are all securely locked in their cells at night, accounts for the smaller force at that time. The walls enclose a yard of perhaps three acres, devoid of shade or grass, where the prisoners take exercise and recreation, sunshine and fresh air. In the center of this enclosure are two cell houses of the same size, each with 120 cells, 5 feet by 7½. Under the chapel, between the north and south cell houses, is the woman's department comprising two large rooms, one used as a sitting room the other containing four cells, all twice the size of those occupied by the men. In the north cell house also is

THE LIBRARY.

a cheerful room in spite of the barred windows that remind you of your gloomy environment. It is well lighted, the floor is carpeted, tables are scattered about and the walls are lined with well filled book shelves. The books are well chosen. Every department of good literature is represented. Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," full set of the works of Victor Hugo and Dickens' complete works are among the volumes to be seen. The books are worn with much use but not abused. They are guarded as carefully by the librarian, who is a convict, as are those in a city library.

To the south of the chapel, through which it is entered, is

THE HOSPITAL. a well lighted, well ventilated room, with a dozen iron beds. There are always some inmates of the hospital and their needs are looked after by Dr. J. S. Wither, who is at present the attendant physician.

The big kitchen with its immense

Walker Bros. & Fyler Co.

Some Good Things Worth Reading About.

LADIES' HOSIERY.

50 Dozen of those great selling 15c Striped Hose will be on Sale Monday at

8c pair

25 Dozen of those regular 12½c fast black Hose, will be on Sale Monday at

8c pair

Only 10 Dozen of those regular 40c Colored Foot and Black Top Fine Regular Made Hose, on Sale Monday at

17 ½c

5 Dozen, all there is left of those fine black 7½c Hose, with Silk Stripe and Silk embroidery, Monday at

45c

Ladies' Underwear.

The remainder of those 15c Jersey Ribbed Vests will be

8c

The remainder of those 25c Vests, never less, Jersey Ribbed and Ribbon Finish, will be

12 ½c

All those 50c Elaborately Trimmed Vests, Low Neck and no Sleeves, Monday

25c

Only what there is left of those \$1.40 (always) Silk Vests, Black, Cream and Fancy Colors, perfectly elegant! Monday

75c

For the Little Ones.

Children's Dresses, Splendid Print Dresses and Circular Yoke Ruffle Finish, Full Sleeves, age 4 to 14 years, cut in two will be the price

50c

Elegant Gingham Dresses, trimmed waist full sleeves, aged 4 to 14 years, cut in two will be the price

85c

Elegant Percale Dresses, Beautiful Styles, Trimmed Waists, age 4 to 14 years. Cut in two will be the price Monday

\$1.35

Mid-Summer Sale of Slow-Sellers.

In all Shoe Stocks there are always some Styles that are more slow than others, and wide sizes always sell better than narrow ones. Thus it is at the end of every season we are sure to have left over the SLOW SELLERS, to dispose of which we are willing to accept Fifty Cents on the Dollar of the Cost. We have left the following in Low Summer Shoes and Tan Goods:

145 Pairs Tan and Black Oxford Ties, regular price, \$2.00. Now

\$1.15

65 Pairs of Black Elastic Sides Low Shoes, Opera, Patent Leather Tip, all sizes, widths, C. D. and E. Regular Price, \$2.50. Now

\$1.55

103 Pairs Ladies' Black Kid Oxford Ties, regular price, \$1.50. Now

79c

85 Pairs Men's Tan Lace Shoes. Regular price, \$3.50. Now

\$2.25

250 Pairs Men's Low Cut Calf Shoes, Southern Ties, Hand Sewed. Regular price, \$5.00. Cut to

\$2.15

On Our Odds and Ends Table, We have placed all the odd sizes and Narrow Widths left over

from the Season, Shoes that sold for \$3.50, \$4.00, \$5.00, we have cut to

\$1.65

130 Pairs Children's Oxford Ties in Tan and Black; regular price \$1.50. All go at

\$1.50

Misses' Narrow Width Low Shoes Black Kid, Patent Leather Tips. Regular price, \$2.50. Now

98c

Ladies' Black Kid Toe Slippers,

98c

Infants' Shoes at

42c

Infants' Booties, at

23c

Special Sale of Shirts.

Men's Neglige Shirts in fine Cheviots, and Black Satens. These shirts areX usually sold for \$1. Sale Price,

50c

60 Dozen Men's French Percale Shirts, Laundered, Fast Colors, in Stripes and Checks, 3 Collars and 1 pair of Cuffs with every shirt. Never sold for less than \$1.75. Sale Price,

\$1.00

55 Dozen Men's Twill Satcen Shirts, in Handsome Stripes and Figure. Usual Retail Price, \$1.50. Sale Price,

\$1.00

90 Dozen Men's Dark Blue, with White Polka Dot Collar Attached. The New Shirt this Season. Former Price, \$1.50 and \$1.75. Sale Price

\$1.00

60 Dozen Men's Soft Neglige Shirts in Neat Stripes. One Price all the Season, \$1.25. Sale Price ...

75c